

News Release



**Erie National Wildlife Refuge
11296 Wood Duck Lane
Guys Mills, PA 16327
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Thirteenth Biennial Photo Contest at Erie National Wildlife Refuge to Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week

The Erie National Wildlife Refuge, in cooperation with the Friends of Erie National Wildlife Refuge and the Presque Isle Audubon Society, announces the thirteenth biennial nature photo contest to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week. Competition will be held in three major categories: plant life, wildlife and landscape. Awards in each category are as follows:

- First prize - \$50
- Second prize - \$25
- Third-place ribbons
- Honorable mention ribbons
- \$75 cash award given for the best photo taken on the Erie National Wildlife Refuge overall
- \$25 best student (under 18) photo over all

The entry deadline: Friday, September 30. Participants may enter up to eight (8) photos.

An entry fee of \$5 per photo must accompany each entry — make check payable to Friends Of Erie National Wildlife Refuge and mail or deliver entries to Erie National Wildlife Refuge, 11296 Wood Duck Lane, Guys Mills, PA 16327. Call office before delivering to verify open hours.

Photos maybe digital or film prints in color or black-and-white. No composite photos are permitted. Photos must be from 8" x 10" to 12" x 12" and matted, but unframed. Photos must be labeled on back as follows: name, address, telephone, age (if 18 or under), title of photo, entry category and specify if taken on the Refuge. The contest is open to amateur photographers only (those who make less than half of their living from photography).

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Judging will occur on Sunday, October 16, 2011. An open reception will be held to present awards at 1:30 PM that day. Refreshments will be served. The photographs will remain on display at the refuge until the end of October. Entries may be picked up after that date. For more information, telephone 814-789-3585.

National Wildlife Refuge Week (October 9-15, 2011) celebrates the diversity and resources of America's over 540 national wildlife refuges. On refuges families and individuals can explore the outdoors and learn how all living things are connected to one another. National wildlife refuges are also great places to relax and get away from the stresses of life. The photography contest provides one more reason to go outside and connect with nature.

Erie National Wildlife Refuge is located in Guys Mills, PA and is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov